

Urges Support for "No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act"

Washington, D.C.—U.S. Congressman Mike Pence delivered the following speech on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives today in support of H.R. 3, the "No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act":

"I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I rise in strong support of H.R. 3, the "No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act."

"I believe that ending an innocent human life is morally wrong. But I also believe it's morally wrong to take the taxpayer dollars of millions of pro-life Americans and use them to fund a procedure that they find morally offensive.

"Fortunately, for over 30 years, a patchwork of policies has regulated federal funding and denied federal funding for abortion in America, but today, thanks to the yeoman's work of Congressman Chris Smith of New Jersey and Congressman Dan Lipinski, we're bringing forward a bipartisan measure that will send a clear and strong and codified message that the American people don't want to allow public funding of abortion at the federal level, and I strongly support it.

"The man who first brought this idea before the Congress was the late Henry Hyde. I had the privilege of serving with him. His eloquence cannot be matched but it can be repeated.

"Henry said, 'I believe nothing in this world of wonders is more beautiful than the innocence of a child and that little, almost-born infant struggling to live as a member of the human family. An abortion is a lethal assault against the very idea of human rights and destroys, along with the defenseless baby, the moral foundation of our democracy.'

"Today, we say yes to life but we also say yes to respecting the moral sensibilities of millions of Americans who, wherever they stand on this divisive social question, stand broadly for the principle that no taxpayer dollars should be used to subsidize abortion at home or abroad. H.R. 3 is that legislation. I urge my colleagues to support it."